

Q1. What was / has been your occupation before entering politics?

A. I was an historian, and still consider myself to be one. I continue to do historical research in my spare time, and publish the results online.

Q2. Do you live in the riding and, if so, how long has it been your home?

A. Yes. I've lived here for the entire 21st Century.

Q3. What has been your main involvement with your community outside of work (volunteer activities, etc.)?

A. I have been assisting in the installation of defibrillators in public places (arenas, churches, Seniors' centres, etc.) for nearly twenty years.

Q 4. In your life what event, or book, or speech, or song or even TV show has made the biggest impression on you and your political thinking? Why?

A. I get my ideas primarily from books. Here are a few that have changed the way I see the world:

- *Civil Disobedience* (1849) by Henry David Thoreau, because it explained that sometimes, disobedience to unjust laws is the only way to honour the deeper values at the core of society;
- *Introduction to the Study of the Law of the Constitution* (1885) by Albert Venn Dicey, which explains how our laws evolve and reflect our values;
- *The Road to Serfdom* by F.A. von Hayek (1944) explains how well-intentioned policies can lead to tyranny.

5. What previous politician, (alive or dead, but not currently in parliament) is a role model for you?

A. I have more than one political hero. In Canada, I most admire Sir Wilfrid Laurier and Sir Oliver Mowat. In British politics, William Gladstone, who was a lifelong champion of political liberty. In the United States, James Madison---less for his presidency than for his work in drafting the Constitution and Bill of Rights. But my real heroes are unelected citizens who successfully challenged power by civil disobedience (often at great personal risk): Frederick Douglass, Gandhi, Martin Luther King, and most important of all, Henry David Thoreau, who developed the concept of Civil Disobedience.

6. What policy in your party's platform do you think matters most to the people in your riding?

A. I believe that the thing that matters most, in my riding or in any other, is most Canadians' deep desire that the country's long-term path towards greater prosperity, freedom, and inclusiveness, remain sustainable. Citizens fear that governments will adopt policies which will push us away from a sustainable future growth of these positive trends. This frequently gets expressed in different ways (for example, environmental sustainability vs economic sustainability). Both perspectives—and many

others—are valid. But it seems to me that the financial side of sustainability is being ignored by all the other major parties in this election.

7. Recent polls suggest many Canadians are disillusioned with politics. If elected, what would you do to address those concerns?

A. Every four years, the voter chooses between party platforms containing a mix of policies that he/she likes, and ones that he/she doesn't. The winning party claims to have a mandate for the whole platform, and implements the whole range of policies. Until the next election, the citizen is utterly disempowered. Voters ought to be able, as in Switzerland, to initiate a referendum that can strike down any recently-enacted statute the voters don't support. The Swiss call this *de facto* citizens' veto a "facultative referendum." It would make our citizens sovereign all the time, rather than once every few years.